

REMARKS

The applicant has carefully reviewed and considered the Office Action of 7 September 2006 and in response expresses its appreciation respecting the substantive allowance of claim 19. Applicant now wishes to accept this allowed coverage. Toward this end, claim 1 is now amended to incorporate the subject matter of substantively allowed claim 19 as well as claims 13 and 18. It is believed that this amendment places claim 1 as well as dependent claims 2-12, 14 and 20 in condition for formal allowance. Claims 13, 15-19, 21 and 22 are canceled without prejudice.

It is further believed that the provisional double patenting rejection based on co-pending patent application serial nos. 10/686,920 and 10/929,642 should be withdrawn. More specifically, the broadest claims in each of these cases have now been amended to incorporate the subject matter of substantively allowed dependent claims and that subject matter provides a clear line of demarcation between the inventions presented in these applications.

In summary, all the pending claims patentably distinguish over the prior art and should be formally allowed. Upon careful review and consideration it is believed that the Examiner will agree with this proposition. Accordingly, the early issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Warren D. Schickli", with a stylized flourish at the end.

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